

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1 and 20-21 are amended and claims 16-19 canceled in this response. After entering this response, claims 1-4, 6-13, and 20-24 remain for consideration.

II. Claim Amendments

Claim 1 is amended by making it clear that the multilayer film consists of at least one layer of a linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE) and at least one layer of a high density polyethylene (HDPE) or medium density polyethylene (MDPE). As the Examiner recognizes in the Office Action, such an amendment is supported by the original disclosure. Claim 1 is also amended by incorporating the limitations of claims 16 and 17, which are therefore canceled.

Claims 20-24 are amended according to the Examiner's suggestion.

Applicant believes that no new matter is introduced by any of these claim amendments.

III. Response to Rejections

The Examiner has rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) claims 1, 2, 6, 13, 17-19 and 21 as being anticipated by *Loos et al.* (WO 03/008190) and claims 3 and 4 as being anticipated by *Loos et al.* as evidenced by US2005/020046.

The Examiner has also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) 7-12 as being obvious over *Loos et al.* in view of *Go et al.* (US 4,577,768), claim 16 over *Loos et al.* in view of *Harp et al.* (US 5,024,799), and claims 20 and 22-24 over *Loos et al.* in view of *White et al.* (US 6,013,378).

Claim 16 has been deemed to be novel by the Examiner. Thus amended claim 1 is novel because it incorporates the limitation of claim 16.

Claim 17 has been deemed to be non-obvious by the Examiner. Thus amended claim 1 is non-obvious because it incorporates the limitation of claim 17.

Remaining claims 2-4, 6-13, and 20-24 are novel and non-obvious because they all depend from claim 1.

IV. Conclusion

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections and allow remaining claims 2-4, 6-13, and 20-24.

Respectfully submitted,
D. Ryan Breese

By: Shao-Hua Guo

Shao-Hua Guo
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 44,728
LyondellBasell Industries
Phone: (610) 359-2455
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Customer Number: 24114